United Nations A/55/L.37

General Assembly

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22 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 50
Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Nigeria: draft resolution

Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998 and 54/234 of 22 December 1999 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

Having considered the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] as well as the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 54/234,[2]

Recalling its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, on the mid-term review of the New Agenda, as well as its resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda,

Reaffirming the close linkage between peace, security and sustainable development and the need for a comprehensive implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

Expressing deep concern over the lack of financial and technical resources for development in Africa,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen further the political will that is indispensable for the successful implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General and the proposals of the Working Group,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/55/45).
[2] A/55/431.
[3] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

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1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa;[1]

2. *Endorses* the proposals of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group contained in paragraphs 25 to 57 of chapter IV of its report, entitled "Modalities for further action", and the follow-up action proposed in paragraph 60 of the report;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional institutions, within their respective mandates, to take necessary and swift action to implement fully the proposals made by the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group in its report;

4. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group in order to enable it to continue to monitor the implementation of all of the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report;[3]

5. *Requests* the Working Group, in devising the modalities for its work, to consider the need for a comprehensive follow-up to the recommendations of the Secretary-General and the necessity of ensuring efficiency by focusing on selected thematic areas;

6. *Requests* the Security Council to pursue its consideration of the follow-up to the recommendations in the areas of peace and security with a view to ensuring a coordinated and integrated implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2001, to consider the proposals of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group contained in chapter IV of its report, including the creation of an ad hoc advisory group on countries emerging from conflict, with a view to identifying concrete measures for their effective implementation;

8. *Requests* that, where applicable, benchmarks be developed by the Secretary-General to assess the impact of and measure performance in the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report and to submit them to the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group for its consideration;

9. *Requests* the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report.

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 20 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

China, Mexico and Nigeria: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, which contains in its annex the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999, and recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council[1] and Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,[2]

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance and in the facilitation of the work of the humanitarian organizations within its territory,

Also emphasizing the importance of international cooperation for dealing with natural disasters in all its phases;

Stressing the need to optimize and disseminate the listings of organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and scientific organizations as well as the need to develop a directory of the specialized national,

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.
[2] A/55/82-E/2000/61.

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regional and international institutions and agencies working in the field of international response to natural disasters, together with an inventory of national capacities, in order to lay the foundations for an efficient and effective use of resources available and collaborative efforts,

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

2. *Stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

3. *Also stresses* in this context the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance for all phases from relief to development, including through the provision of adequate resources;

4. *Emphasizes* that economic growth and sustainable development are essential for prevention of and preparedness against natural disasters;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the participation, at the national level, of the private sector in supporting the efforts of Governments of disaster-prone countries towards prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, reconstruction and development activities, and encourages more members of the private sector to take part in such initiatives;

6. *Welcomes* the expansion of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination teams to include experts from all areas of the world;

7. *Encourages* enhanced cooperation among Governments, in particular through the United Nations and regional organizations, in order to strengthen early warning and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters;

8. *Also encourages* Governments, in particular through their disaster response agencies, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to maximize the effectiveness of the international response to natural disasters, based, inter alia, on humanitarian need, from relief to development;

9. *Also encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of regional organizations to respond to natural disasters;

10. *Invites* Member States to consider developing a framework for international humanitarian assistance in the wake of natural disasters, outlining the responsibilities of countries receiving and providing support;

11. *Encourages* States that have not signed the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998, to consider doing so;

12. *Stresses* the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to

promote the transfer and use of technologies to strengthen the preparedness and response to natural disasters, and calls for the transfer of required technologies to developing countries on concessional and preferential terms;

13. *Encourages* the complementarity of telecommunications and other technological equipment required in humanitarian and disaster relief operations;

14. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remote-sensing images, geographic information systems and global positioning systems data, among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate;

15. *Stresses* the need to ensure close links between disaster prevention activities, as set out in resolution 54/219, and the improvement of natural disaster preparedness and response;

16. *Encourages* Governments in natural disaster-prone countries to establish, with the support of the donor community, national spatial information infrastructure relating to natural disaster preparedness, response and mitigation, including the necessary training of personnel;

17. *Also encourages* innovative efforts which link various phases of international assistance from relief to development, such as the joint Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Children's Fund and World Health Organization and Pan-American Health Organization Disaster Response and Recovery Mission, undertaken in all countries affected by hurricane Mitch, and reiterates the need to ensure adequate assessment of and follow-up to these approaches with a view to further developing and applying them, as appropriate, in other natural disasters;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare recommendations on how to improve the United Nations potential to mitigate natural disasters, including through the development of an inventory of existing capacities at the national, regional and international levels;

19. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General, contained in resolutions 54/95 of 8 December 1999 and 54/233, to submit to the General Assembly concrete proposals in order to enhance the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, and in this regard, again requests the Secretary-General to consider more active use of the Fund for timely and adequate natural disaster response;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider innovative mechanisms to improve the international response to natural disasters, inter alia, through addressing any geographical and sectoral imbalances in such a response where they exist, as well as more effective use of national emergency response agencies, taking into account their comparative advantages and specializations, as well as existing arrangements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

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General Assembly

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24 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 38
Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

Angola, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo and Uruguay: draft resolution

Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, a zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

Reaffirming that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Aware of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the protection of the environment of the region, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, in

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particular actions that may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] submitted in accordance with its resolution 54/35 of 24 November 1999;

4. *Recalls* the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held in Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of these goals;

5. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the holding of the fifth meeting of the States members of the zone in Buenos Aires, on 21 and 22 October 1998 and takes note of the Final Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the meeting;[3]

6. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[4] and the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[5]

7. *Also welcomes* the entry into force of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials,[6] adopted in November 1997, and the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions by the Organization of American States in June 1999;

8. *Further welcomes* the decision on the proliferation, circulation and illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons[7] taken by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held in Algiers in July 1999 as well as the decisions on the prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in small arms and related crimes[8] taken by the Council of Ministers at the nineteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community, held in Maputo in August 1999, and the initiatives taken by States members of the Economic Community of West African States to conclude their agreement on a moratorium on the importing, exporting and manufacture of light weapons;

9. *Underlines* that sustainable peace and security in Sierra Leone can only be achieved through the fulfilment of the broad objectives of the Peace Agreement signed at Lomé on 7 July 1999,[9] including full disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, the legitimate exploitation of natural resources of Sierra Leone for the benefit of its people, full respect for the human rights of all, national reconciliation, effective action on the issues of impunity and accountability, the full extension of

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[1] A/55/476.
[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[3] A/53/650, annex.
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.
[5] See A/50/426, annex.
[6] A/53/78, annex.
[7] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.137 (XXXV).
[8] A/54/488-S/1999/1082, annex.
[9] S/1999/777, annex.

the authority of the State of Sierra Leone, and a free and inclusive democratic process leading to elections;

10. *Reaffirms* the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of all States in the region and calls on all the parties to the conflict to cease the hostilities and to fulfil their obligations under the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance for Member States to contribute by all means at their disposal to an effective and lasting peace in Angola, and in that context reiterates that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords[10] the Lusaka Protocol,[11] and relevant Security Council resolutions;

12. *Views with concern* the humanitarian effects on the civilian population of the present situation in Angola, commends in this regard the efforts of Member States, including the Government of Angola, and humanitarian organizations in rendering humanitarian assistance to Angola, and urges them to continue to provide and to increase such assistance;

13. *Welcomes* the return to constitutional and democratic order in Guinea-Bissau following the holding of free and fair presidential and legislative elections on 16 January 2000, and calls upon the international community and the Government of Guinea-Bissau to support the economic reconstruction of Guinea-Bissau and promote the consolidation of democracy there;

14. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all peaceful purposes and activities protected by international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[12]

15. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts towards the achievement of appropriate regulation of maritime transport of radioactive and toxic wastes, taking into account the interests of coastal States and in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regulations of the International Maritime Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

16. *Views with concern* the increase in drug trafficking and related crimes, including drug abuse, and calls upon the international community and the States members of the zone to promote regional and international cooperation to combat all aspects of the problem of drugs and related offences;

17. *Recognizes*, in the light of the number, magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance by States members of the zone, so as to ensure a timely and effective response;

18. *Welcomes* the offer by Benin to host the sixth meeting of the States members of the zone;

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[10] S/22609.

[11] S/1994/1441.

[12] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

19. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 37
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard

Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam:
draft resolution

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Stressing the importance of the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly which reviewed and assessed the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and the Programme of Action[2]

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[2] Ibid., annex II.

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and adopted further actions and initiatives to implement the commitments made at the Summit,[3]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[5]

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[1] and the Programme of Action,[2] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[3]

2. *Also reaffirms* that the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development adopted at the twenty-fourth special session will constitute the basic framework for the further promotion of social development in the forthcoming years;

3. *Emphasizes* the vital importance of placing the goals of social development, as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session, at the centre of economic policy-making, including in policies that influence domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to take on a priority basis all steps necessary to ensure the effective implementation of all commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government and people of Switzerland for contributing to the successful outcome of the twenty-fourth special session;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session;[6]

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on this question.

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[3] Resolution S-24/2, annex.
[4] Resolution 55/2.
[5] Resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.
[6] A/55/344.

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 37
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard

Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam:
draft resolution

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Australia, Gabon, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Malta, Philippines, San Marino and United States of America

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 20 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation of Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997, 53/1 K of 7 December 1998 and 54/96 A of 22 December 1999,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1113 (1997) of 12 June 1997, 1128 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, 1167 (1998) of 14 May 1998, 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998, 1240 (1999) of 15 May 1999 and 1274 (1999) of 12 November 1999, and the statements of the President of the Security Council of 23 March 2000[1] and 12 May 2000,[2]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

Welcoming the implementation of the main provisions of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[4]

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[1] S/PRST/2000/9.
[2] S/PRST/2000/17.
[3] A/55/347.
[4] A/52/219-S/1997/510, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, document S/1997/510.

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Recognizing with satisfaction that the United Nations has played a successful and important role in the peace process and was instrumental in assisting the negotiation and implementation processes conducted under its aegis, believing that the United Nations should continue the assistance to Tajikistan in post-conflict peace-building, and welcoming, in this regard, the establishment of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, which should be regarded as a successful operation, supported by the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations, the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Noting that, despite the conclusion of the peace process and significant progress in the security environment, the humanitarian situation has not improved owing to the severe economic deterioration and the prevailing drought, and that significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

Recognizing that until the economy is able to support the Tajik population, humanitarian operations will remain a critical factor in strengthening the achievements of the peace process in Tajikistan,

Expressing regret that, despite the importance of humanitarian operations for contributing to peace and stability, donor response to both the 1999 and the 2000 consolidated inter-agency appeals has been insufficient,

Stressing that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

Noting with concern the lack of support for food assistance and health programmes, which aim to save lives and must receive immediate funding if social catastrophe is to be avoided in Tajikistan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[3] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Welcomes* the implementation of the main provisions of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[4] and the end of the transition period;

3. *Welcomes also* the continued role of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in Tajikistan and the establishment of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building;

4. *Stresses* that Tajikistan has entered a new phase of post-conflict peace-building, which requires continued international economic assistance;

5. *Recognizes* that humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance remains crucial, not only to sustain life, but also to promote development and prevent renewed conflict;

6. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute

humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the post-conflict rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of the country;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the States, the United Nations, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

8. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for the post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

9. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2001, as a strategic document that will guide a gradual transition to a more development-oriented focus, and invites Member States to fund programmes included in the appeal;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to re-evaluate in 2001 all humanitarian assistance activities in Tajikistan with a view to addressing longer-term developmental issues;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel, and of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give special attention, in the dialogue with the multilateral lending institutions, to the humanitarian implications of their adjustment programmes in Tajikistan;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the question of the situation of Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

United Nations A/55/L.42

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 43
The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama: draft resolution

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Considering the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolution 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989, and its own resolutions, particularly resolution 43/24 of 15 November 1988, in which it requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices and to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the objectives of peace, reconciliation, democracy, development and justice established in the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" of 7 August 1987,[1]

Reaffirming its resolutions in which it recognizes and stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to achieve peace and democratization, particularly resolution 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[2] as well as its resolution 53/1 C of 2 November 1998, concerning

[1] A/42/521-S/19085, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987*, document S/19085.

[2] See A/49/580-S/1994/1217, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1217.

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emergency assistance to Central America, owing to the destruction caused by hurricane Mitch,

Emphasizing the importance of the development of the Central American Integration System, which has as its main objective the promotion of the integration process; the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America as the integrated programme for national and regional development, which contains the commitments and priorities of the countries of the area for the promotion of sustainable development; the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy; the model of democratic Central American security; and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings, which taken together constitute the global frame of reference for consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and development and the basis for the promotion of mutually advantageous relations between Central America and the international community,

Recognizing the considerable success achieved in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala Peace Agreements, implementation of which is being verified by the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala,

Noting at the same time the delays in the fulfilment of some of the commitments contained in the Guatemala Peace Agreements, which has led the Clarification Commission[3] to reschedule its fulfilment for the period 2001-2004, and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala and his recommendations aimed at ensuring that the Mission is able to respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until December 2001,

Taking note with satisfaction of the successful implementation of the Peace Agreements and of the continuous consolidation of the process of democratization in El Salvador, as a result of the efforts of the country's people and Government,

Recognizing with satisfaction the role played by the peacekeeping operations and observer and monitoring missions of the United Nations, which carried out successfully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, respectively,

Recognizing with satisfaction the organization and holding of general elections in Guatemala at the end of 1999, of municipal and parliamentary elections in El Salvador in March 2000 and of municipal elections in Nicaragua in November 2000,

Emphasizing the importance of the end of a critical period in Central American history and the start of a new phase free from armed conflict, with freely elected Governments in each country and with political, economic, social and other changes which are creating a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and further progress towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Noting with gratification that the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of

[3] A/53/928, annex.

Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction will be held in Nicaragua in September 2001,

Reaffirming that the consolidation and establishment of firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America is a dynamic and ongoing process that faces serious structural challenges,

Stressing the importance of progress in human development, especially the alleviation of extreme poverty, the promotion of economic and social justice, judicial reform, the safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for minorities and the satisfaction of the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups among the peoples in the region, issues which have been a primary source of tension and conflict and which deserve to be discussed with the same urgency and dedication as was the case in the settlement of armed conflicts,

Considering with concern that it has not yet been possible to overcome the devastating effects of hurricane Mitch and hurricane Keith on sectors of the economies of the Central American countries and which are causing setbacks in the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of Central America,

Emphasizing the solidarity of the international community with the victims of hurricane Mitch, as demonstrated by the Stockholm Declaration,[4] the subsequent meetings of the regional consultative group for the transformation and modernization of Central America and the next meeting of the Madrid Group in January 2001,

Bearing in mind the efforts made by the Central American Governments to reduce the risks and mitigate the consequences of natural disasters in the region, as demonstrated by the adoption, by the presidents of the Isthmus, of the Declaration of Guatemala II[5] of 19 October 1999, the subsequent adoption of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America, as well as the adoption of the Central American Five-Year Plan for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Disasters, 2000 to 2004,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central America;[6]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of the Central American countries to establish peace and democracy throughout the region and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the summit meetings in the region, and supports the decision of the presidents that Central America should become a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development;

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue to improve the electoral processes that have been taking place in Central America, which are conducive to the consolidation of democracy in the region, and encourages greater participation of citizens in elections;

4. *Recognizes* the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America according to the objectives and principles established in the Stockholm

[4] See www.iadb.org.
[5] A/54/630, annex.
[6] A/55/465.

Declaration[4] in order to support national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid setbacks and consolidate peace and democratization in the area and promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;[2]

5. *Stresses* the importance of lending support to the meeting of the regional consultative group for the transformation and modernization of Central America, which will be held in Madrid in January 2001, in order to continue to help to consolidate the modernization and improvement of the principal structures of the region in accordance with the model established by the Alliance for Sustainable Development (ALIDES);

6. *Welcomes* the Declaration of Guatemala II[5] of 19 October 1999 which provides for the necessary measures to prevent vulnerability and mitigate the effects of natural disasters;

7. *Also welcomes* the progress achieved in implementing the Guatemala Peace Agreements, calls upon all parties to take further measures to implement the commitments in the Peace Agreements, and urges all sectors of society to combine efforts and work with courage and determination to consolidate peace;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and the international community to continue to support and verify in Guatemala the implementation of all the peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, compliance with which is an essential condition for a firm and lasting peace in that country, and to consider the implementation of the Peace Agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, stressing the importance of constant and close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations framework of assistance for the development of Guatemala;

9. *Expresses its appreciation with satisfaction* to the people and the Government of El Salvador for their efforts to fulfil the commitments set forth in the Peace Agreements, which has made a substantial contribution to the strengthening of the process of democratization in that country;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the Central American Integration System as the body set up to coordinate and harmonize efforts to achieve integration, and calls upon the international community, the United Nations system and other international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to extend generous and effective cooperation with a view to improving the competence and efficiency of the System in the fulfilment of its mandate;

11. *Underlines* the efforts carried out in the Central American region towards integration, such as the Trinational Declaration between Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, as well as the Customs Union between those countries, as means for promoting integration while respecting different stages of development, through a pragmatic mechanism open to the participation of the other countries of the region;

12. *Encourages* the Central American Governments to continue to carry out their historic responsibilities by fully implementing the commitments they have assumed under national, regional or international agreements, especially the commitments to implement the social programme to overcome poverty and unemployment, establish a more just and equitable society, improve public safety,

strengthen the judiciary, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration and eliminate corruption, impunity, acts of terrorism and drug and arms trafficking, all of which are necessary and urgent measures for establishing a firm and lasting peace in the region;

13. *Reiterates its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General, his special representatives, the groups of countries for the peace processes in El Salvador (Colombia, Mexico, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), and Guatemala (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), to the Support Group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), to the European Union and to other countries that have contributed significantly and to the international community in general for its support and solidarity in the building of peace, democracy and development in Central America;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and the donor community in the new stage of consolidating firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those goals;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the determination of the Central American Governments to settle their disputes through peaceful means, thereby avoiding any setback in the efforts to consolidate firm and lasting peace in the region;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his full support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, particularly their efforts to consolidate peace and democracy through the promotion of integration and the implementation of the comprehensive sustainable development programme, emphasizing, inter alia, the potential repercussions of natural disasters, in particular of hurricane Mitch, for the peace processes and the vulnerable economies of the region, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

United Nations A/55/L.43

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 33
Culture of peace

Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal and Thailand: draft resolution

International decade for a culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the world (2001-2010)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially its dedication to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling also the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

Recalling further its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, and resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,

Reaffirming the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace contained in General Assembly resolution 53/243 of 13 September 1999, recognizing that it serves, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade and convinced that effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[1]

[1] A/55/377.

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Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a Culture of Peace",[2]

Emphasizing the particular relevance of the Decade for the special session of the General Assembly, in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in New York, and for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in South Africa in 2001,

Taking into account the Manifesto 2000 initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over sixty million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

1. *Recognizes* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the engagement of Member States, the United Nations system and civil society during the International Year for the Culture of Peace at the national, regional and global levels and, in this context, recognizes the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the focal point during the year;

3. *Invites* Member States to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence is fostered at all levels;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of more than two hundred national committees and national focal points in over one hundred and sixty countries in the context of the observance of the International Year of the Culture of Peace and stresses the importance of their continued close involvement in furthering the objectives of the Declaration[3] and Programme of Action[4] on a Culture of Peace and in the effective observance of the Decade;

5. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency for the Decade with responsibility for coordinating the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as liaison with the other organizations concerned;

6. *Recognizes* the important role of relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, particularly by means of special activities during the Decade;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to disseminate widely in various languages the Declaration and

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[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 3* (E/2000/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Resolution 53/243 A.

[4] Resolution 53/243 B.

Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and related materials, in particular throughout the Decade;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote both formal and non-formal education at all levels that inculcates a culture of peace and non-violence;

9. *Invites* civil society at the local, regional and national levels to widen the scope of their activities to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, engaging in partnerships and sharing information, thus contributing to a global movement for a culture of peace, and encourages civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further the objectives of the Decade by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the media and of the new information and communication technology in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, especially among children and young people;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session in 2005 a report on the observance of the Decade at its mid-point and on the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, taking into account the views of Member States and in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

12. *Invites* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

13. *Decides* to devote one day of plenary meetings at its sixty-first session to the consideration of the item, including a review of the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, as well as the observance of the Decade at its mid-point, with the participation of all relevant actors;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 33
Culture of peace

Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia: draft resolution

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially its dedication to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling also the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

Recalling further its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, and resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,

Reaffirming the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace contained in General Assembly resolution 53/243 of 13 September 1999, recognizing that it serves, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

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Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[1]

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a Culture of Peace",[2]

Emphasizing the particular relevance of the special session of the General Assembly, for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in New York in 2001, and for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001 and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004) for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010),

Taking into account the Manifesto 2000 initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over sixty million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

1. *Recognizes* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World is to further strengthen the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the engagement of Member States, the United Nations system and civil society during the International Year for the Culture of Peace at the national, regional and global levels, and, in this context, recognizes the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the focal point during the year;

3. *Invites* Member States to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence is fostered at all levels;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of national committees and national focal points in over one hundred and sixty countries in the context of the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace, stresses the importance of their continued close involvement in furthering the objectives of the Declaration[3] and Programme of Action[4] on a Culture of Peace and in the effective observance of the Decade, and encourages the establishment of such bodies in the remaining countries;

5. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency for the Decade with responsibility for coordinating the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system to promote a culture of peace, as well as liaison with the other organizations concerned in this matter;

6. *Recognizes* the important role of relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, in

[1] A/55/377.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 3* (E/2000/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Resolution 53/243 A.

[4] Resolution 53/243 B.

further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, particularly by means of special activities during the Decade at national, regional and international levels;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to disseminate widely in various languages the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and related materials, in particular throughout the Decade;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote both formal and non-formal education at all levels that fosters a culture of peace and non-violence;

9. *Invites* civil society at the local, regional and national levels to widen the scope of their activities to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, engaging in partnerships and sharing information, thus contributing to a global movement for a culture of peace, and encourages civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further the objectives of the Decade by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the media and of the new information and communication technology in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, especially among children and young people;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session in 2005 a report on the observance of the Decade at its mid-point and on the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, taking into account the views of Member States and in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

12. *Invites* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

13. *Decides* to devote one day of plenary meetings at its sixty-first session to the consideration of the item, including a review of the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, as well as the observance of the Decade at its mid-point, with the participation of all relevant actors, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 33
Culture of peace

Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia: draft resolution

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Cuba, Guyana, Myanmar and Tunisia

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United Nations A/55/L.44

General Assembly

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24 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 47
Assistance in mine action

France: draft resolution

Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance and its resolutions 53/26 of 17 November 1998 and 54/191 of 17 December 1999 on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Considering mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions, and that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-affected countries,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, including women and children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[1]

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

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1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[2] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[3] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[4] 1999/80 of 28 April 1999[5] and 2000/85 of 28 April 2000[6] on the rights of the child and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996,[2] 1998/31 of 17 April 1998,[4] 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[6] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997[3] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

Noting the decisions taken at the First Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[7] held at Geneva from 15 to 17 December 1999, particularly with respect to Protocol II to the Convention, and the inclusion in Amended Protocol II of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability,

Noting the entry into force of Amended Protocol II to the Convention on 3 December 1998,

Recalling that the States parties at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention declared their commitment to keep the provisions of Amended Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems related to landmines,

Noting the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[8] and that the Convention was signed or has been acceded to by one hundred and thirty-nine States and ratified by one hundred eight States, also noting the conclusions of the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, taking note of the reaffirmed commitments that were made to, among other things, provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes, and also taking note of the work of the inter-sessional programme established by States parties to that Convention,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

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[2] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II.

[4] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* (E/2000/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[7] CCW/AP.II/CONF.I/2.

[8] See CD/1478.

Recognizing the important role that the international community, in particular States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries by providing necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

Concerned about the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment, as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

Concerned about the limited availability of the technical, material and financial resources necessary to meet the cost associated with mine-clearance activities in mine-affected countries,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role to play in the field of assistance in mine action,

Reaffirming the need to reinforce international cooperation in the area of mine action and to devote the necessary resources towards that end,

Welcoming the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations, as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and mine assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat, in the context of such operations,

Commending the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Also commending the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations in assistance in mine action;[9]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

[9] A/55/542.

3. *Invites* Member States to develop national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among women and children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat on the basis of the policy on mine action and effective coordination developed by the Secretary-General in annex II to his report;[10]

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to develop further a comprehensive mine-action strategy, taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys, notes in this regard the ongoing development by the United Nations of standards and certification guidelines for such surveys, and emphasizes the need for an inclusive process to be followed in the development of such standards and guidelines;

12. *Emphasizes* in this respect the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, under the overall coordination of

[10] A/53/496.

the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the setting of priorities and the coordination of field activities;

13. *Welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

14. *Encourages*, whenever appropriate, the use of the United Nations Office for Project Services by the United Nations, including in peacekeeping operations, in order to ensure the unity and continuity of implementation required for integrated mine-action programmes;

15. *Urges* Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data, as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, in particular in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine-detection and mine-clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

16. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

17. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

18. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-infested countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

19. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities, and in this context welcomes the initiation of the revision of international mine-clearance standards and the development of guidelines for the use of mine-detection dogs and mechanical mine-clearance equipment, as well as the development of an international test and evaluation programme;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the role of the United Nations in

assistance in mine action, including the progress achieved with regard to all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, the progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

21. *Invites* the Secretary-General to study how to secure a more sound financial basis for the Mine Action Service and to present options to this effect to the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 47
Assistance in mine action

Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia: revised draft resolution

Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance and its resolutions 53/26 of 17 November 1998 and 54/191 of 17 December 1999 on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Considering mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions, and that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-affected countries,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of

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personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, including women and children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[1] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[2] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[3] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[4] 1999/80 of 28 April 1999[5] and 2000/85 of 28 April 2000[6] on the rights of the child and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996,[2] 1998/31 of 17 April 1998,[4] 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[6] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997[3] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

Noting the decisions taken at the First Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[7] held at Geneva from 15 to 17 December 1999, particularly with respect to Protocol II to the Convention, and the inclusion in Amended Protocol II of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability,

Noting the entry into force of Amended Protocol II to the Convention on 3 December 1998,

Recalling that the States parties at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention declared their commitment to keep the provisions of Amended Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems related to landmines,

Noting the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[8] and that the Convention was signed or has been acceded to by one hundred and thirty-nine States and ratified by one hundred eight States, also noting the conclusions of the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, taking note of the reaffirmed commitments that were made to, among other things, provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II.

[4] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* (E/2000/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[7] CCW/AP.II/CONF.I/2.

[8] See CD/1478.

social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes, and also taking note of the work of the inter-sessional programme established by States parties to that Convention,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Recognizing the important role that the international community, in particular States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries by providing necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

Concerned about the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment, as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

Concerned about the limited availability of the technical, material and financial resources necessary to meet the cost associated with mine-clearance activities in mine-affected countries,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role to play in the field of assistance in mine action,

Reaffirming the need to reinforce international cooperation in the area of mine action and to devote the necessary resources towards that end,

Concerned about the critical financial situation of the United Nations Mine Action Service,

Welcoming the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations, as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and mine assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat, in the context of such operations,

Commending the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Also commending the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations in assistance in mine action;[9]

[9] A/55/542.

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

3. *Invites* Member States to develop national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among women and children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat on the basis of the policy on mine action and effective coordination developed by the Secretary-General,[10] and stresses the need for the continuous assessment by the General Assembly of the United Nations in this regard;

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

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[10] See A/53/496, annex II; and A/55/542.

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to develop further a comprehensive mine-action strategy, taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys, notes in this regard the ongoing development by the United Nations of standards and certification guidelines for such surveys, and emphasizes the need for an inclusive process to be followed in the development of such standards and guidelines;

12. *Emphasizes* in this respect the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the setting of priorities and the coordination of field activities;

13. *Welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

14. *Encourages*, whenever appropriate, the use of the United Nations Office for Project Services by the United Nations, including in peacekeeping operations, in order to ensure the unity and continuity of implementation required for integrated mine-action programmes;

15. *Urges* Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data, as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, in particular in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine-detection and mine-clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

16. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

17. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

18. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-infested countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

19. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities, and in this context welcomes the initiation of the revision of international mine-clearance standards and the development of guidelines for the use of mine-detection dogs and mechanical mine-clearance equipment, as well as the development of an international test and evaluation programme;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the role of the United Nations in assistance in mine action, including the progress achieved with regard to all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, the progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

21. *Invites* the Secretary-General to study how to secure a more sound financial basis for the Mine Action Service and to present options to this effect to the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

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Agenda item 41
Question of Palestine

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Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 A of 2 December 1977, 33/28 A and B of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A and C of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A and C of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, 37/86 A of 10 December 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 a of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989, 45/67 A of 6 Decen.ber 1990, 46/74 A of 11 December 1991, 47/64 A of 11 December 1992, 48/158 A of 20 December 1993, 49/62 A of 14 December 1994, 50/84 A of 15 December 1995, 51/23 of 4 December 1996, 52/49 of 9 December 1997, 53/39 of 2 December 1998 and 54/39 of 1 December 1999,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[2] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/55/35).

[2] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

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Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[3] and the Memorandum signed at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility with respect to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Considers* that the Committee can continue to make a valuable and positive contribution to international efforts to promote the Middle East peace process and the full implementation of the agreements reached and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people during the transitional period;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter VII of its report;[1]

4. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize support and assistance for the Palestinian people and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and thereafter;

6. *Requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other non-governmental organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to involve additional non-governmental organizations in its work;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and expresses appreciation for the cooperation between the Commission and the Committee with regard to the modernization and preservation of the records of the Commission;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

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[3] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

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Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in Chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December 1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989, 45/67 B of 6 December 1990, 46/74 B of 11 December 1991, 47/64 B of 11 December 1992, 48/158 B of 20 December 1993, 49/62 B of 14 December 1994, 50/84 B of 15 December 1995, 51/24 of 4 December 1996, 52/50 of 9 December 1997, 53/40 of 2 December 1998 and 54/40 of 1 December 1999,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 54/40;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/55/35).

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under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of meetings in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine, and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, requests them to continue to give the widest possible publicity to the observance, and requests the Committee and the Division to continue to organize, as part of the observance of the Day of Solidarity, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

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Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 54/41 of 1 December 1999,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Aware of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[2] and of the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[3] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 4 September 1999, and their positive implications,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/55/35).

[2] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[3] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

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1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 54/41;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East in general, including the achievements of the peace process, and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2000-2001, in particular:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(b) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard, in particular the prospects for peace;

(c) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine and to continue the production of such material, including the updating of the exhibit in the Secretariat;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territories under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the occupied territories;

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists initiated in 1995;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to promote the Bethlehem 2000 Project, within existing resources and until the Bethlehem 2000 commemoration comes to a close, including the preparation and dissemination of publications, audiovisual material and further development of the "Bethlehem 2000" site on the United Nations Internet home page.

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Question of Palestine

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Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Aware that it has been more than fifty years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-three years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 54/42 of 1 December 1999,

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

[1] A/55/639-S/2000/1113; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fifth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 2000*, document S/2000/___.

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Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the signing by the two parties of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[2] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[3]

Recalling also the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in 1995 in accordance with the agreements reached by the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas, as well as the subsequent redeployments of the Israeli army in the rest of the West Bank,

Noting with satisfaction the successful holding of the first Palestinian general elections,

Noting also the signing of the Memorandum at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, as well as all follow-up meetings and the international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people, including the donor meeting held at Tokyo on 14 October 1999,

Expressing its deep concern over the tragic events in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 28 September 2000, which have resulted in a high number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, and concerned also about the clashes between the Israeli armed forces and the Palestinian police and the casualties on both sides,

Expressing its deep concern also over the serious deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects;

2. *Expresses its full support* for the ongoing peace process which began in Madrid and the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[2] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the

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[2] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[3] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 1995[1] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 1999, and expresses the hope that the process will lead to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for commitment to the principle of land for peace and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which form the basis of the Middle East peace process, and the need for the immediate and scrupulous implementation of the agreements reached between the parties, including the redeployment of the Israeli forces from the West Bank, and calls for the speedy conclusion of the final settlement agreement between the two sides;

4. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the co-sponsors of the peace process and other interested parties, as well as the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts and initiatives to immediately reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, in implementation of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings and to ensure a successful and speedy conclusion of the peace process;

5. *Stresses* the need for:

(a) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination;

(b) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

6. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

7. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during this critical period;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to play a more active and expanded role in the current peace process and in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

United Nations A/55/L.49

General Assembly

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27 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, 46/82 B of 16 December 1991, 47/63 B of 11 December 1992, 48/59 A of 14 December 1993, 49/87 A of 16 December 1994, 50/22 A of 4 December 1995, 51/27 of 4 December 1996, 52/53 of 9 December 1997, 53/37 of 2 December 1998 and 54/37 of 1 December 1999, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions at Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

1. *Determines* that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

[1] A/55/538.

00-76569 (E) 281100

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980) and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/55/L.50

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen: draft resolution

The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening at Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

[1] A/55/538.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

00-76581 (E) 281100

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Declares also* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[3] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands* once more that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[3] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

United Nations A/55/L.51

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 47
Assistance in mine action

Egypt: amendment to draft resolution A/55/L.44/Rev.1

Assistance in mine action

1. Replace the sixth preambular paragraph with the following text:

"*Deeply alarmed* at the number of mines that continue to be laid each year in excess of national requirements for self-defence, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible".

2. Replace the eleventh preambular paragraph with the following text:

"*Stressing* the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines that are in excess of national requirements for self-defence in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations".

3. Replace operative paragraph 9 with the following text:

"9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the United Nations Mine Action Service, and stressing the need for the continuous assessment by the General Assembly of the United Nations policy in this regard".

4. Replace operative paragraph 20 with the following text:

"20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on United Nations mine action policy, including the progress achieved on relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, as well as progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes".

00-76730 (E) 281100

United Nations A/55/L.52

General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 175
The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict

Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,

Expressing its concern over the problem of conflict diamonds in fuelling conflicts in a number of countries and the devastating impact of these conflicts on peace, safety and security for people in affected countries,

Understanding conflict diamonds to be rough diamonds which are used by rebel movements to finance their military activities, including attempts to undermine or overthrow legitimate Governments,

Recognizing that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

Recognizing also that the legitimate trade in diamonds makes a critical contribution to economic development in many countries worldwide,

Acknowledging that the problem of conflict diamonds is of serious international concern, and that measures to address the problem should engage all concerned parties, including producing, processing, exporting and importing countries, as well as the diamond industry,

Recognizing the need to address the problem of rough diamonds originating from territory of diamond-producing countries that is under military occupation by another country,

Emphasizing that these measures should be effective and pragmatic, consistent with international law, including relevant trade provisions and commitments, and should not impede the current legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, and not hinder the development of the diamond industry,

00-76739 (E) 281100

Recalling all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including its resolutions 1173 (1998) of 12 June 1998, 1295 (2000) of 18 April 2000 and 1306 (2000) of 5 July 2000, as well as resolution 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000,

Highlighting the additional, important initiatives already taken to address this problem, in particular by the Governments of Angola and Sierra Leone and by other key producing, processing, exporting and importing countries, as well as by the diamond industry and civil society, including the creation by the industry of the World Diamond Council,

Welcoming with appreciation the initiative by the African diamond-producing countries to launch an inclusive consultation process of Governments, industry and civil society, referred to as the Kimberley Process, to deal with the issue,

Noting the ministerial statement[1] issued at the conclusion of the meeting on diamonds held in Pretoria on 21 September 2000,

Noting also the communique[2] issued by the London Intergovernmental Meeting on Conflict Diamonds, held on 25 and 26 October 2000,

1. *Calls upon* all States to implement fully Security Council measures targeting the link between the trade in conflict diamonds and the supply to rebel movements of weapons, fuel or other prohibited materiel;

2. *Urges* all States to support efforts of the diamond producing, processing, exporting and importing countries and the diamond industry to find ways to break the link between conflict diamonds and armed conflict, and encourages other appropriate initiatives to this end, including, inter alia, improved international cooperation on law enforcement;

3. *Expresses* the need to give urgent and careful consideration to devising effective and pragmatic measures to address the problem of conflict diamonds, the elements of which would include:

(a) The creation and implementation of a simple and workable international certification scheme for rough diamonds;

(b) The basing of the scheme primarily on national certification schemes;

(c) The need for national practices to meet internationally agreed minimum standards;

(d) The aim of securing the widest possible participation;

(e) The need for diamond exporting, processing and importing States to act in concert;

(f) The need for appropriate arrangements to help to ensure compliance, acting with respect for the sovereignty of States;

(g) The need for transparency;

4. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Namibia to convene a workshop of the world's leading diamond exporting, processing and importing countries, continuing the momentum of the Kimberley Process to consider technical

[1] A/55/638, annex.
[2] A/55/628, annex.

aspects pertaining to the envisaged international certification scheme for rough diamonds;

5. *Encourages* the countries participating in the Kimberley Process to consider expanding the membership of the Process in order to allow all key States with a significant interest in the world diamond industry to participate in further meetings, and to move ahead with the intergovernmental negotiating process to develop detailed proposals for the envisaged international certification scheme for rough diamonds, in close collaboration with the diamond industry and taking into account the views of relevant elements of civil society;

6. *Requests* the countries participating in the Kimberley Process to present to the General Assembly, no later than its fifty-sixth session, a report on progress made;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

United Nations A/55/L.53

General Assembly

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28 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 20 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Brazil, France, India, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Seychelles, South Africa, Sweden and United States of America: draft resolution

Assistance to Mozambique

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 386 (1976) of 17 March 1976,

Recalling also its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 45/227 of 21 December 1990, 47/42 of 9 December 1992, 49/21 D of 20 December 1994, 51/30 D of 5 December 1996 and 53/1 G of 16 November 1998, in which it urged the international community to respond effectively and generously to the call for assistance to Mozambique,

Reaffirming the principles for humanitarian assistance contained in the annex to its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance, and stressing the need to foster the establishment of national mine-clearance capacity with a view to enabling the Government of Mozambique to deal more effectively with the adverse effects of those weapons within the framework of the efforts for national reconstruction,

Recalling also its resolution 54/96 L of 10 March 2000 on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods,

Deeply concerned about the unprecedented floods in Mozambique, which have resulted in tragic loss of human lives and extensive destruction of property and infrastructure,

Also deeply concerned about the impact of the disaster on the economic, social and humanitarian situation in Mozambique,

00-76747 (E) 281100

Recognizing that natural disasters constitute one of the major problems for the development of Mozambique,

Aware that, to prevent and manage natural disasters, strategies at local, national and regional levels are required, in addition to international assistance,

Bearing in mind the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990,[1] and the mutual commitment entered into on that occasion,

Noting with appreciation the mobilization and allocation of resources by States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist national efforts,

Noting with satisfaction the full support by the international community of the post-emergency reconstruction programme presented by the Government of Mozambique at the International Reconstruction Conference for Mozambique, organized by the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Mozambique, which was held in Rome on 3 and 4 May 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique,[2] and his report on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique[2] and his report on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the assistance rendered to Mozambique by various States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and private individuals and groups to assist national development efforts and their full support for the post-emergency reconstruction programme presented by the Government of Mozambique at the International Reconstruction Conference for Mozambique, held in Rome on 3 and 4 May 2000;

3. *Welcomes also* the progress made in the consolidation of a lasting peace and tranquillity, the enhancement of democracy and the promotion of national reconciliation in Mozambique;

4. *Notes* the importance of the International Reconstruction Conference on funding for the reconstruction programme, welcomes the pledges made by the development partners for the post-emergency programme, expresses its gratitude to the development partners that have already disbursed the pledged funds, and urges others to speed up the process;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue to mobilize and coordinate, with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Mozambique:

(a) Humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

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[1] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[2] A/55/317.

[3] A/55/123-E/2000/89.

(b) International assistance for the national reconstruction and development of Mozambique;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, under the item on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance, and through the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session in 2002.

United Nations A/55/L.54

General Assembly

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29 November 2000

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 20 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in its annex, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and the agreed conclusions of the Council of 1998 and 1999,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Welcoming the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,

Noting the efforts made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to implement fully the recommendations set forth in agreed conclusions 1998/1[2] and 1999/1[3] of the Council,

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[1] A/55/82-E/2000/61.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum and addendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1 and Add.1), chap. VII, para. 5.

[3] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

00-77247 (E) 291100

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the third humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2000;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to further enhance the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1998/1[2] and 1999/1;[3]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the 2001 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions 1998/1 and 1999/1.